

Identifying a location of the sludge deposit;
draining the water level in the steam generator to just above the identified
sludge deposit;
allowing the pressure inside the steam generator to increase to a
5 designated level;
venting the steam generator to induce boiling thus creating both thermal
and mechanical stress in the sludge deposit; and
draining the boiler or using water lancing techniques to remove the
dislodged sludge deposit.

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2. A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of inducing both
thermal and mechanical stress is done without the application of external heat or
pressure.

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3. A method as set forth in claim 2 wherein the sludge deposit is on the
tube support plates or tubesheet of the steam generator / boiler.

4. A method as set forth in claim 3 wherein the sludge deposit is an
excessive deposit known as a collar.

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5. A method as set forth in claim 4 wherein the draining of the water level
is to a level of between 0 and 36 inches above the identified sludge deposit.

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6. A method as set forth in claim 5 including the step of identifying the next
sludge deposit and draining the water level to the next sludge deposit.

7. A method as set forth in claim 6 including the steps of:
allowing the pressure inside the steam generator to increase to a
designated level;

venting the steam generator to induce boiling thus creating both thermal and mechanical stress in the sludge deposit; and

draining the boiler or using water lancing techniques to remove the dislodged sludge deposit.

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